Powder River Bridge ~~Wyoming Historic Truss Bridge Survey~~ HAER No. WY-~~17~~ 58
Spanning Powder River on U. S. Highway 14/16
Arvada vicinity
Sheridan County
Wyoming

HAER
WYO,
17-ARVA.V,
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Powder River Bridge

HAER No. WY-~~(17-1)~~ 58

Location: Spanning the Powder River, on U. S. Highway 14/16, 3.1 miles north of Arvada, in Sheridan County, Wyoming

UTM: 13.412885.4949715
Quad: Arvada N.E.

Date of Construction: 1932-1933

Builder/Designer: W. R. Roscoe Company

Present Owner: Wyoming State Highway Department
P. O. Box 1708
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-9019

Present Use: Highway Bridge - Vehicular Traffic

Significance: The Powder River Bridge is a three-span, steel rigid connected continuous Pratt Deck truss. As one of only two major highway deck trusses built in Wyoming, and the only continuous vehicular truss still in use in the State, it is an important representative of the most recent truss development. Although slightly less than fifty years old, it possesses the exceptional significance as the only one of its type for eligibility.

Historians: Clayton B. Fraser and Richard G. Ewig
November 1981

NOTE: ~~**For more general information, see Wyoming Truss Bridges Survey, HAER No. WY-17**~~

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I. HISTORY

In August 1932, the Highway Department contracted with the W. R. Roscoe Company to construct two steel bridges on the Sheridan-Gillette Road, as part of Federal Aid Project 206B. This Pratt Deck truss is one of the bridges.[1]

II. DESCRIPTION

The Powder River Bridge is a three span, steel rigid connected continuous Pratt Deck truss, consisting of three continuous main spans and two shallower approach spans. It is an excellent example of the long span deck trusses built in the 1930s through the 1950s for major highway crossings.

This bridge has concrete spill through abutments with concrete deck on steel stringers. The span is 452 feet, with a roadway width of 20 feet. Top chords are two channels with batten plates and lacing; bottom chords are two channels with batten plates; vertical and diagonals are rolled beams; and steel pipe guardrail.[2]

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1 Wyoming State Highway Department Commissioners' Minutes, August 23, 1932, Wyoming State Highway Department, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

2 Wyoming Truss Bridge Survey, Wyoming State Highway Department.